

# The Art of Connection



Exhibition of Student Art  
State Charter Schools Foundation of Georgia

## 2021 THEME: HOW I STAY CONNECTED TO OTHERS

### Artist Statements from Winning Entries

#### Junior Elementary (K — 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Daniella M, Kindergarten, Resurgence Hall Charter School (East Point)  
*"Staying Connected"*

"My family lives all over the place. I write my G letters. I drove to see my Nana and Pappa. I draw them pretty pictures. I facetime with my daddy. Just to stay connected."

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Carter P, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade, International Academy of Smyrna (Smyrna)  
*"Peaceful Protest"*

"It is important to respect others and to treat others like we want to be treated. I saw a lot of people protest this summer and they were young, old, black, and white. I met a few people my age at a protest and our moms gave each other our numbers. I still talk to two girls from the protest on Zoom and will have a play date with them after COVID-19 is over. We stay connected to others by getting to know each other and helping each other. The peaceful protest is how I met new friends and now we stay connected."

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Nathan P, 1<sup>st</sup> Grade, International Academy of Smyrna (Smyrna)  
*"The Battle Pokémon Comic Book"*

"I stay connected to others by sharing about toys, comic books and Pokémon. I enjoy talking about this with my friends."

#### Elementary (3<sup>rd</sup> — 5<sup>th</sup> Grade)

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Gabriela G, 4<sup>th</sup> Grade, Brookhaven Innovation Academy (Norcross)  
*"Natural Nature"*

"It means that electronics are not the only things that help us survive, it teaches us to go outside and explore nature. We love nature and nature loves us."

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Towa K, 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade, International Charter Academy of Georgia (Peachtree Corners)  
*"Friends are Connected"*

"Although we can't see each other in person, we are able to be connected virtually using various devices!"

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Taylor D, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade, International Academy of Smyrna (Smyrna)  
*"Black Lives Matter"*

"Black Lives Matter connects us to human rights."

### **Middle (6<sup>th</sup> — 8<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Bix T, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade, Liberty Tech Charter School (Brooks)  
*"Smiling with our Eyes"*

"Kindness can be even the slightest of gestures, like a warm smile, but due to COVID-19, it has become harder than ever to show our appreciation for the people around us. With my painting, I tried to represent that we are together through this tough time. We have adapted to a situation the best we can and are continuing to try and make it as normal as possible."

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Madison H, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Academy for Classical Education (Macon)  
*"2020 in Review"*

"Many people have not been able to see their friends and families. Due to Covid 19, I and many other people have contacted their loved ones through a screen."

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Rebecca R, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, Liberty Tech Charter School (Brooks)  
*"The Disconnection of Quarantine"*

"We can be lonely without a special person we love, but if we cannot go outside or see them, we will never know when they might be lost to the virus. Inside, we cannot be at their funeral, so we feel the guilt of not being able to talk once more with them. All we can do is cry at night."

### **High School (9<sup>th</sup> — 12<sup>th</sup> Grade)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** Audrey N, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Academy for Classical Education (Macon)  
*"Phonelight"*

"During this pandemic caused by COVID-19, we have been forced to stay inside our homes therefore cutting off our ability to socialize. I believe our solution to this problem has been solved by technology. My painting shows a woman looking at her phone while surrounded by Coronavirus cells. I stayed connected to all my loved ones by texting and calling them. I wanted to make the light coming from the phone the main light source because I thought that it is like a light in these dark times."

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** Genesys G, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, Georgia Connections Academy (virtual school)  
*"So Close Yet So Far"*

"With the pandemic, I didn't have an issue with staying connected to others, but a cousin of mine who is a nurse hadn't been able to talk to his daughter without a glass door between them. During our call, I mentioned to them about doing a story/exhibition piece based on their story and they found the idea exciting."

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** Hannah G, 12<sup>th</sup> Grade, Georgia Connections Academy (virtual school)

*"Sharing the Light"*

"My submission captures the idea that although we are separated, the light within each and every one of us is still bright and noticeable to others. Even at a distance, we can still show our colors."

